

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated July 25, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on October 25, 2006.

Claims 30-42 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 1-29 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 2, 11, and 24-28 stand rejected by the Examiner. Claims 3, 6, 7, 10, and 29 are objected to by the Examiner. Reconsideration of the pending claims is requested for reasons presented below.

Election/Restrictions

Newly submitted claims 22 and 23 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed for the following reasons: These claims recite a method of operating a blind. Claims 22 and 23 have been cancelled. Thus, Applicants request removal of the objection.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 24-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by *Chou*. Claims 24-27 have been cancelled.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2, 11, and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Toti*, '017. Claims 1, 2, 11 and 28 have been cancelled.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 3, 6, 7, 10, and 29 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim 3 has been rewritten including any base claim as new claim 32. Applicants believe that claim 32 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 10 has been rewritten including any base claims as new claim 30. Applicants believe that claim 30 is in condition for allowance.

Claim 29, has been rewritten including any base claims as new claim 35. Applicants believe that claim 35 is in condition for allowance.

New Claims

New claims 30-35 have been added. No new matter has been added. As discussed above, Applicants believe that claim 30 is in condition for allowance and thus, claim 31 which depends therefrom is also in condition for allowance.

As stated above, Applicants believe that claim 32 is in condition for allowance and thus, claims 33 and 34 which depend therefrom are also in condition for allowance.

New claims 36-42 have been added. No new matter has been added. Applicants believe that the references cited by the Examiner neither alone, nor, in combination teach, show, or suggest the first operating device positioned fixedly in a longitudinal direction of the head rail as recited in claims 36-42. Thus, Applicants believe that claims 36-42 are in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

The references cited by the Examiner, alone or in combination, do not teach, show, or suggest the invention as claimed. Having addressed all issues set out in the office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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